

To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Jennifer Jones, CDM Smith

Sarah C Braddy, CDM Smith

Date: March 21, 2016

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse

Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on March 21, 2016, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Sarah C Braddy, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:30 am and ending at 3:30 p.m. Weather conditions were mostly cloudy with winds picking up in the afternoon. Temperatures ranged from 55°F in the morning to 72°F in the afternoon. Overnight, there was no measureable rain.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with setting the scaffolding and cement placing for the curbs and a slab on the Admiralty walking path, landscape work along the northern slope near the pump house, electrical work and installation of the lighted bollards along the Admiralty Way walking path, installation of an observation deck, installing the decomposed granite (DG) walking path along Washington and on the peninsulas, and installing of the fence along Admiralty Way. All crews were overseen by the Contractor Superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:15 am. Biological monitor arrives onsite.

6:30 am. Biological monitor conducts initial walk. There are 15-20 ducks of some kind in the basin near the northern storm drain inlet off of Washington Blvd; however, it is still too dark to properly identify them. A group of American Wigeons is heard and seen moving away from the eastern boat ramp.

6:50 am. The biologist gives the bio awareness training to the crew, focusing on staying vigilant for nesting birds such as Killdeer.

7:15 am. A large group of waterfowl is at the northern spillway. An immature Double Crested Cormorant, a female Bufflehead, two Great Blue Herons, one Great Egret, a group of ducks consisting of male and female Wigeons, lesser Scaups, Gadwalls, and American Coots. By the tide gates are a pair of Mallards, a Snowy Egret, and two Great Egrets moving from the tide gates to the trees. The female Bufflehead is congregating with a group of Scaups and a Willet moves through the Northwestern mudflats searching for food.

7:30 am. Planting continues today and more water is coming in through the tide gates. Anna's Hummingbirds are seen and heard at the boat ramp.

8:15 am. Anna's Hummingbirds are very active feeding and chasing each other at the tide gates and in the trees there. The Willet continues to forage, two Great Blue Herons, and a Herring Gull all feed in and around the tide gates. The Willet flies from the west side mud flat to the spillway.

8:45 am. At the tide gates, the two Great Blue Herons and a Great Egret are perched on the wall. A Black Crowned Night Heron chases away two gulls. The same group of ducks is still present moving throughout the basin feeding. Two swallows fly overhead, possible Tree Swallows but they are far away and in the sun and hard to identify properly.

9:30 am. Wildlife activity slows. The group of ducks is now resting in the center of the basin, with almost no feeding activity. There is jack hammering near the trees by the tide gates. Bees and ladybugs are present. The Great Egrets and Great Blue Herons are chasing each other around. A Rock Dove lands in the northwest mudflat and flies away.

10:30 am. A mature Double Crested Cormorant is feeding and perching at the north spillway.

11:15 am. At the northern mudflat, the same group of ducks and the Willet are feeding again. Anna's Hummingbirds are heard in the trees by the tide gate. The Black Crowned Night Heron is still perched on the railing at the tide gates. A pair of Killdeer is observed on the northwest mudflat, searching for a suitable nesting site.

11:45 am. Five American Crows are walking around the boat dock.

12:15 pm. An Osprey, the same one with the missing tail feather, catches a fish and perches on the southwest condo roof to eat it. Several American Crows are waiting for the scraps. Half of the construction crew breaks for lunch and the Osprey continues fishing.

12:45 pm. The other half of the crew and the biomonitor break for lunch.

1:30 pm. Construction resumes. The pair of Killdeer are sitting on a potential nest site together on the northwest mudflat. However, there are no eggs yet. The Osprey is still hunting and eating on his

Mr. Rick Sun March 21, 2016 Page 3

perch on the southwest condo roof. The Osprey, at one point, catches two fish; one in each talon.

2:45 pm. Three Anna's Hummingbirds are feeding and chasing each other in the trees near the south side deck on Admiralty Way. The group of Scaups and the female Bufflehead have moved to the northwest mudflat to feed.

3:30 pm. The Osprey is still very active, an Anna's Hummingbird is in the bushes in front of the construction trailer. A pair of house finches is perched on the wires near the construction trailer. The work day ends and all crew and the biological monitor leave the Site.

Additional Observations

One osprey was observed today. It was seen diving for food and eating on site. It was identified as the osprey previously seen with the missing tail feather.

Black Skimmers or California Least Terns were not observed today. No savannah sparrows, and therefore no potential Belding's savannah sparrows, were observed. No butterflies were observed today.

Two killdeer were observed today on the northwest mudflat. One showed signs of nesting behavior such as scratching, calling, sitting with its mate in multiple areas, and raising its tail, but did not make a nest.

Conclusions

- 1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tends to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. The crew was reminded to dispose of trash properly.
- 2. The pair of killdeer appear to be selecting possible nesting locations on the northwest mudflat. Their movement and lack of deterrent displays toward approaching humans signal that a nesting site has not yet been selected.
- 3. In general, wildlife are most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am, with the exception of American crows and gulls. Wildlife activity often increases slightly in the late afternoon.
- 4. No construction activities occurred in the water.
- **5.** The number of fish surfacing and caught by osprey and wading birds confirm that fish are entering the Basin through the tide gates.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on March 21, 2016.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on March 21, 2016		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
		Several individuals; Very common
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	flying overhead, perching on
		power line poles, and exploring
		the basin banks
Killdeer	Charadrius vociferus	Two individuals observed on the
		northwest mudflats
Snowy Egret	Egretta thula	2 individuals on the gabion
		peninsula
Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	3 individuals; perched on or near
		the gabion peninsula and flying
		overhead
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	2 mated pairs foraging throughout
		the Basin and flying overhead
Gadwall	Anas strepera	4-6 individuals observed feeding
		in the basin
American Wigeon	Anas americana	Over 12 individuals foraging and
		resting in the Basin
Lesser Scaup	Aythya affinis	Over 12 individuals foraging and
•		resting in the Basin
American Coot	Fulica americana	Two individuals wading
		throughout the Basin
Rock Pigeon	Columba livia	1-2 observed flying overhead and
_		on structures to the south and
		west of the Basin
House Finch	Carpodacus mexicanus	Several individuals; common in
		palms along Washington
		Boulevard
Anna's Hummingbird	Calypte anna	Several individuals observed
_		hovering overhead or perching
		throughout the Basin
Bufflehead	Bucephala albeola	1 female feeding with the Scaups
		in the Basin
Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	1 individual diving throughout the
		Basin
Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus	2 individuals feeding in the basin
Tree Swallow	Tachycineta bicolor	2 individuals seen flying over the
		basin
Black Crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	1 individual seen at the tide gates
Willet	Catopyrophorus semiplalmatus	1 individual seen feeding at the
	- Lavopy, op.10. ao bomipiamatas	north mudflat
Herring Gull	Larus argentatus	2 individuals seen flying
Tioning dan	Dar as argentatus	throughout the basin



To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Jennifer Jones, CDM Smith

Sarah C Braddy, CDM Smith

Date: March 22, 2016

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse

Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on March 22, 2016, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Sarah C Braddy, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:30 am and ending at 3:30 p.m. Weather conditions were mostly sunny with winds picking up in the afternoon. Temperatures ranged from 52°F in the morning to 72°F in the afternoon. Overnight, there was no measureable rain.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with setting the scaffolding and cement placing for the curbs and a slab on the Admiralty Way walking path, landscape work along the northern slope near the pump house, and electrical work and installation of the lighted bollards along the Admiralty Way walking path. All crews were overseen by the Contractor Superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:00 am. Biological monitor arrives onsite.

6:40 am. Biological monitor conducts initial assessment. Several waterfowl, including Gadwall, Wigeon, Coot, Mallard, and Lesser Scaup are all in the center of the basin. Three Double Crested Cormorants are feeding between the peninsula and the tide gates, an immature Black Crowned Night Heron is perched on the railing at the tide gates, Anna's Hummingbirds are feeding on the bugs near the water at the boat dock, a Great Blue Heron, a Great Egret, and a Snowy Egret are perched on the peninsula, and all of the birds are noticeably pairing up.

6:55 am. The biologist gives the bio-awareness training to the crew, with emphasis on watching out for any Killdeer nests and birds that may enter work zones.

7:45 am. The same waterbirds observed earlier are still seen throughout the basin. Construction crews are prepping and working on the path off Admiralty Way. Frames are being put up to pour concrete to fill the gap between the walking path and the bike path on Washington. Electricians are working on the lighting system throughout the basin's pathways. Planting continues on the northeastern side and the crews are smoothing the fresh dirt on the south side in preparation for planting there. A Black Phoebe is seen drinking from a leak in a hose near the construction trailer.

9:00 am. Ducks are resting, numerous Gulls fly overhead.

9:15 am. A group of 5-6 House Sparrows is perching on the northern fence lines. A pair of House Finches is perched on the north side silt fence. A Willet is napping between two Gadwalls, and the pair of Killdeer is back on the northwestern mudflat in search of a nest site. House Finches are in the trees and on the fence line on the northern side of the basin.

9:30 am. The majority of the ducks leave the site. The Lesser Scaups and two Coots are still present in the center of the basin. The same Osprey, as noted by his missing tail feather, is back and fishing. His chosen perch so far today is a power line on the northern side of the basin.

10:15 am. The Osprey is perched on the same powerline and is calling frantically. A second Osprey flies above the basin the Osprey missing the tail feather joins it in flight. From far away, the second Osprey appears to be female. A male Anna's Hummingbird is perched in the trees on the north fence line.

10:45 am. A Mourning Dove lands on the north side fence. The two Killdeer are still in the same spot searching for a suitable nesting site.

11:00 am. The female Bufflehead has returned. Numerous House Finches are in the trees and bushes near the construction trailer. Planting continues on the south side close to the tide gates. A Great Blue Heron is fishing off the peninsula. A Snowy Egret lands in the spillway. Anna's Hummingbirds are heard in the trees by the south side deck off Admiralty Way.

11:30 am. All waterfowl are active and feeding again in the center of the basin. The Snowy Egret in the spillway is feeding. The Osprey has not been observed since its mate showed up. Lots of bees and ladybugs are observed on the newly planted flora. Small rusty brown butterflies are seen throughout the basin. The female Bufflehead continues to group with the Lesser Scaups.

12:00 pm. A male Anna's Hummingbird is in the trees by the northwestern mudflat. A Snowy Egret is fishing from the peninsula. The Killdeer are no longer there. Half of the construction crew breaks for lunch.

12:30 pm. The lunch crew switches.

Mr. Rick Sun March 22, 2016 Page 3

1:45 pm. The male Osprey is back and hunting again. One Double Crested Cormorant is fishing near the tide gates, one Snowy Egret is perched near the tide gate. Three European Starlings are perching on the power lines near the construction trailer. A House Finch flies by, the Willet is feeding at the northwestern mudflats, a Monarch flies by, Anna's Hummingbirds are perching in the trees at the northwestern mudflats, the ducks are now resting, and there is no sign of the pair of Killdeer.

2:00 pm. The male Osprey is still hunting alone, no sign of the female. American Crows are gathering nesting material and flying offsite. There are now two Double Crested Cormorants feeding at the tide gate. The female Bufflehead and the Lesser Scaups are resting in the center of the basin. Two Coots and a Great Egret are feeding at the tide gate.

2:45 pm. A Monarch butterfly flies by the pump house. House Finches are perched on the fence line behind the pump house. There are markedly fewer ducks in the basin, and the Osprey has not been seen since 2:00 pm.

3:30 pm. The Scaups, Coots, Mallards, and the female Bufflehead are the only water birds left in the basin. Work ends for the day.

Additional Observations

Two ospreys were observed today. The male with the missing tail feather was observed feeding throughout the day and it appears he has chosen a mate. She has not been observed feeding but they call to each other and he will fly to her. There were two instances where the male caught a fish and flew out of the basin with it instead of perching to eat it.

No Black Skimmers or California Least Terns were observed today. No savannah sparrows, and therefore no potential Belding's savannah sparrows, were observed. More songbird and monarch activity was observed today.

Two Killdeer were observed today on the northwest mudflat earlier in the day. There is still no sign of a nest.

Conclusions

- 1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tends to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. The crew was reminded to dispose of trash properly.
- 2. In general, wildlife is most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife

- activity after 10:00 am, with the exception of American crows and gulls. Wildlife activity often increases slightly in the late afternoon.
- 3. No construction activities occurred in the water.
- 4. The number of fish surfacing and caught by osprey and wading birds confirm that fish are entering the Basin through the tide gates.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on March 22, 2016.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	Several individuals; Very common flying overhead, perching on power line poles, and exploring the basin banks
Killdeer	Charadrius vociferus	Two individuals observed on the northwest mudflats
Snowy Egret	Egretta thula	2 individuals on the gabion peninsula
Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	3 individuals; perched on or near the gabion peninsula and flying overhead
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	2 mated pairs foraging throughout the Basin and flying overhead
Gadwall	Anas strepera	4-6 individuals observed feeding in the basin
American Wigeon	Anas americana	Over 12 individuals foraging and resting in the Basin
Lesser Scaup	Aythya affinis	Over 12 individuals foraging and resting in the Basin
American Coot	Fulica americana	Two individuals wading throughout the Basin
Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	1-2 observed flying overhead and on structures to the south and west of the Basin
House Finch	Carpodacus mexicanus	Several individuals; common in palms along Washington Boulevard
Anna's Hummingbird	Calypte anna	Several individuals observed hovering overhead or perching throughout the Basin
Bufflehead	Bucephala albeola	1 female feeding with the Scaups in the Basin
Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	1 individual diving throughout the Basin

Mr. Rick Sun March 22, 2016 Page 5

Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus	2 individuals feeding in the basin
House sparrow	Paser domesticus	Several individuals seen perching
		and flying over the basin
		throughout the day
Black Crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	1 individual seen at the tide gates
Willet	Catopyrophorus semiplalmatus	1 individual seen feeding at the
		north mudflat



To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Jennifer Jones, CDM Smith

Sarah C Braddy, CDM Smith

Date: March 23, 2016

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse

Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on March 23, 2016, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Sarah C Braddy, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:15 am and ending at 3:30 p.m. Weather conditions were mostly sunny with winds picking up in the afternoon. Temperatures ranged from 52°F in the morning to 77°F in the afternoon. Overnight, there was no measureable rain.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with setting the scaffolding and cement placing for the curbs and a slab on the Admiralty Way walking path, landscape work along the northern slope near the pump house, landscape grading and preparation on the south side near the tide gates, and electrical work and installation of the lighted bollards along the Admiralty Way and Washington walking paths. All crews were overseen by the Contractor Superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:15 am. Biological monitor arrives onsite.

6:40 am. The biological monitor conducts an initial assessment. Lesser Scaups, two Snowy Egrets, a Willet, numerous Mallard pairs, and a Black Crowned Night Heron are feeding in the center of the basin. American Crows are flying overhead and landing in the northeast side of the basin. Two Double Crested Cormorants, numerous American Wigeons, and a Great Egret are all feeding in the basin. Two Killdeer are in the northwest mudflat, numerous Gadwalls are swimming and feeding, a

Mr. Rick Sun March 23, 2016 Page 2

Great Blue Heron lands in the basin, and American Coots are feeding in the center of the basin.

6:55 am. The biological monitor conducts the bio-awareness briefing for the crew, focusing on the return of the Monarch butterflies, instructions to be on the lookout for ground nesting birds, general and overall safety and site cleanliness.

7:00 am. Work begins for the day. Two Western Gulls fly overhead and a Tern (either Caspian or Royal, but not a Least Tern) flies over the basin.

7:45 am. The waterfowl in the basin are active feeding and preening. The Killdeer are gone from the northwest mudflat. Numerous Anna's Hummingbirds are feeding on gnats, swooping into the basin.

8:45 am. Waterfowl continue to pair up, and the Mallards seem to be searching for next sites. A Great Egret and a Black Crowned High Heron are on the peninsula by the tide gates and a Great Blue Heron lands there as well. Lots of Hummingbirds are heard in the trees off of Admiralty Way. A Double Crested Cormorant is drying his wings on the northwest mudflats closest to the construction trailer. The water level in the basin is noticeably low.

9:00 am. Two Western Gulls are perched on the tip of the peninsula. Hummingbirds are feeding on the gnats throughout the basin.

9:45 am. The male Osprey with the missing tail feather returns to fish. He catches one and leaves the basin with it instead of perching nearby to eat it. Tree swallows are also feeding on the gnats throughout the basin. European Starlings are heard by the construction trailer. The waterfowl are now resting and the Double Crested Cormorant is sunning his wings again.

10:30 am. Many of the waterfowl have flown away. There is still no sign of the Osprey or the Killdeer.

11:00 am. A Great Blue Heron, Lesser Scaups, American Wigeons, Gadwalls, and the mallards are all resting and feeding throughout the basin. No sign of the female Bufflehead yet today.

11:45 am. Several House Finches are flying throughout the basin and the Willet is feeding in the shallows by the northwest mudflat. A Monarch butterfly and many bees are in the flowers by the observation deck closest to the spillway.

12:00 pm. The entire crew breaks for lunch.

12:30 pm. The Osprey has returned and is perched in the tallest tree off Admiralty Way.

12:45 pm. Work resumes. Crew are laying temporary sprinkler lines and planting the southern slope off Admiralty Way. Work continues on the walking path as fill is brought in and spread around. The electricians continue working on the walking path lighting system throughout the basin. A Great Egret is perched on the peninsula by the tide gates. House Finches are perched on

Mr. Rick Sun March 23, 2016 Page 3

and flying around the power lines by the construction trailer. Waterfowl are spread throughout the basin resting. A Black Phoebe and a pair of House Sparrows are perched on the fence by the trailer.

1:15 pm. A Snowy Egret feeds in the shallows on the south side of the peninsula. A Great Blue Heron and a Snowy Egret sit on the peninsula near the tide gates. Numerous tree swallows are feeding on flies near the construction trailer, and a Double Crested Cormorant is sunning himself by the northwest mudflats.

2:00 pm. A Brown Pelican lands just off the tip of the peninsula but doesn't stay long.

2:45 pm. The female Bufflehead is back and feeding near the Lesser Scaups. House Sparrows are in the bushes near the construction trailer.

3:30 pm. The male Osprey is back. Again, he catches one fish and leaves with it toward the south. Mourning Doves are landing in the dried areas of the mudflats.

Additional Observations

The female Osprey was not observed today, however, the male showed up twice. Each time, he caught one fish and flew away with it to the south.

No Black Skimmers or California Least Terns were observed today. No savannah sparrows, and therefore no potential Belding's savannah sparrows, were observed. More songbird and monarch activity was observed today.

A California brown pelican briefly visited the basin today.

Two Killdeer were observed today on the northwest mudflat earlier in the day; however, they have not been seen since. There is still no sign of a nest.

Conclusions

- 1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tends to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. The crew was reminded to dispose of trash properly.
- 2. In general, wildlife is most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am, with the exception of American crows and gulls. Wildlife activity often increases slightly in the late afternoon.

- 3. No construction activities occurred in the water.
- 4. The number of fish surfacing and caught by osprey and wading birds confirm that fish are entering the Basin through the tide gates.
- **5.** Due to the behavior and feeding patterns of the male Osprey, it is likely he is feeding his mate on a nest somewhere offsite or the eggs have hatched and he's providing fish for the female and chicks.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on March 23, 2016.

Common Name	ved during Biological Monitoring or Scientific Name	Comments
Common Name	Scientific Name	Several individuals; Very common
		flying overhead, perching on
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	power line poles, and exploring
		the basin banks
Killdeer	Charadrius vociferus	Two individuals observed on the
Killucei	Charachias vocijeras	northwest mudflats
Snowy Egret	Egretta thula	2 individuals on the gabion
Showy Egret	Egretta thala	peninsula
Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	3 individuals; perched on or near
dreat blue fleron	Arueu neroulus	the gabion peninsula and flying
		overhead
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	2 mated pairs foraging throughout
Manaru	Thus placyrhynenos	the Basin and flying overhead
Gadwall	Anas strepera	4-6 individuals observed feeding
Gauwan	Thus streperu	in the basin
American Wigeon	Anas americana	Over 12 individuals foraging and
micrean wigeon	Tinus unterteunu	resting in the Basin
Lesser Scaup	Aythya affinis	Over 12 individuals foraging and
Lesser seaup	Tiy ony a ayyimis	resting in the Basin
American Coot	Fulica americana	Two individuals wading
		throughout the Basin
Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	1-2 observed flying overhead and
8		on structures to the south and
		west of the Basin
House Finch	Carpodacus mexicanus	Several individuals; common in
		palms along Washington
		Boulevard
Anna's Hummingbird	Calypte anna	Several individuals observed
_		hovering overhead or perching
		throughout the Basin
Bufflehead	Bucephala albeola	1 female feeding with the Scaups
		in the Basin
Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	1 individual diving throughout the

Mr. Rick Sun March 23, 2016 Page 5

		Basin
Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus	2 individuals feeding in the basin
House sparrow	Paser domesticus	Several individuals seen perching
		and flying over the basin
		throughout the day
Black Crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	1 individual seen at the tide gates
Willet	Catopyrophorus semiplalmatus	1 individual seen feeding at the
		north mudflat
Brown Pelican	Pelicanus occidentalis	1 individual landed in the basin



To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Jennifer Jones, CDM Smith

Sarah C Braddy, CDM Smith

Date: March 24, 2016

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse

Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on March 24, 2016, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Sarah C Braddy, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:15 am and ending at 3:30 p.m. Weather conditions were mostly sunny with winds picking up in the afternoon. Temperatures ranged from 54°F in the morning to 81°F in the afternoon. Overnight, there was no measureable rain.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with fill the path on the Admiralty Way walking trail, landscape work along the northern slope near the pump house and the tide gates, and electrical work and installation of the lighted bollards along the Admiralty Way and Washington walking paths. All crews were overseen by the Contractor Superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:15 am. Biological monitor arrives onsite.

6:40 am. Monitor conducts initial assessment. Mallards, Lesser Scaups, Wigeons, Gadwalls, and Coots are feeding throughout the basin. A Black Crowned Night Heron and a pair of Mallards are at the boat dock.

6:55 am. Monitor conducts bio-awareness brief for the crew, focusing on Monarch butterflies, ground nesting birds, general site cleanliness, and safety.

7:15 am. A Double Crested Cormorant lands at the north spillway. A Great Egret is fishing at the central mudflat, a Herring Gull is swimming near the northwest mudflat, and two Killdeer are walking around the northwest mudflat.

8:00 am. A Black Phoebe is perched on the irrigation pipes by the construction trailer. Two Killdeer are on the central mudflat.

8:30 am. Some Gadwalls and all of the Wigeons leave the basin. A Great Blue Heron is perched on the tip of the peninsula.

9:00 am. A Black Phoebe, several House Finches, and a European Starling are perched on the power lines by the construction trailer.

9:30 am. Concrete is being poured on the north side off of Washington by the alternate construction gate. Two American Crows are mating in the construction parking lot. The tide gates open and immediately there is a Great Blue Heron, a Black Crowned Night Heron, and a Snowy Egret feeding very close to the tide gate opening. Anna's Hummingbirds are seen and heard throughout the trees by the tide gates.

10:00 am. The water level in the basin has risen substantially. A pair of Mallards is mating on and around the tip of the peninsula. All of the birds in the basin are feeding. A Black Skimmer flies just above the water. A Great Egret is feeding off the peninsula tip.

10:45 am. Three Great Blue Herons and a Snowy Egret are perched on the peninsula by the tide gates. A Great Egret lands in the trees by the tide gates.

- 11:15 am. Several Black Phoebes are perched on the silt fence on both sides of the spillway. Two mourning doves land on the northern slope. A Great Blue Heron lands on the spillway. Anna's Hummingbirds are perched in the trees near the central mudflat.
- 11:30 am. The three Great Blue Herons are chasing each other around. Anna's Hummingbirds are in the trees by the tide gates. The Great Egret is still perched there as well.
- 11:45 am. The crew breaks for lunch. The ducks are resting throughout the basin. American Crows are gathering nesting materials near the central mudflat and then flying offsite.
- 12:30 pm. Work resumes. One Killdeer is in the dirt on the slope near the construction trailer. The Scaups are resting near the northwest mudflat, which is still flooded. Tree Swallows and a Cabbage White butterfly fly around the trees and bushes near the northwest mudflat.
- 1:15 pm. A Double Crested Cormorant feeds, a Great Blue Heron is standing in the shallows on the northwest slope by the tide gates. A pair of mallard is asleep on the peninsula close by. A house sparrow is perched on the fence line by the trailer. A Belted Kingfisher is heard and seen. It flies over the basin and perches on a telephone wire then later returns to the basin where it perches and

Mr. Rick Sun March 24, 2016 Page 3

feeds from the tip of the peninsula. A Great Blue Heron lands in the trees at the tide gates and scares away two Anna's Hummingbirds.

2:00 pm. Anna's Hummingbirds are flying around the tide gate trees. A House Sparrow sings on the fence by the construction trailer. Anna's Hummingbirds are feeding in the flowered bushes by the construction trailer. American Coots are swimming on the south side of the peninsula and Mourning Doves are in the dirt by the construction trailer.

2:15 pm. A Double Crested Cormorant, a female Bufflehead, the Lesser Scaups, and Mallards are swimming and fishing throughout the basin.

3:00 pm. The Belted Kingfisher is sunning himself off the tip of the peninsula.

3:30 pm. Work ends for the day.

Additional Observations

Ospreys and Least Terns were not observed today. No savannah sparrows, and therefore no potential Belding's savannah sparrows, were observed. A black skimmer briefly visited the basin.

No monarch butterflies were observed today.

The basin was fully flooded and the larger birds were observed feeding right at the tide gates for the rest of the day.

Conclusions

- 1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tends to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. The crew was reminded to dispose of trash properly.
- 2. In general, wildlife are most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am, with the exception of American crows and gulls. Wildlife activity often increases slightly in the late afternoon.
- 3. No construction activities occurred in the water.
- 4. The number of fish surfacing and caught by osprey and wading birds confirm that fish are entering the Basin through the tide gates.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on March 24, 2016.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	Several individuals; Very common flying overhead, perching on power line poles, and exploring the basin banks, gathering nesting material
Killdeer	Charadrius vociferus	Two individuals observed on the northwest mudflats, 1 individual observed alone on the northwest slope
Snowy Egret	Egretta thula	Numerous individuals on the gabion peninsula
Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	3 individuals; perched on or near the gabion peninsula and flying overhead, getting aggressive
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	2-4 mated pairs foraging throughout the Basin and flying overhead
Gadwall	Anas strepera	4-6 individuals, male and female, observed feeding in the basin
American Wigeon	Anas americana	Over 12 individuals, male and female, foraging and resting in the Basin
Lesser Scaup	Aythya affinis	Over 12 individuals, male and female foraging and resting in the Basin
American Coot	Fulica americana	Two individuals wading throughout the Basin
Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	1-2 observed flying overhead and on structures to the south and west of the Basin
House Finch	Carpodacus mexicanus	Several individuals; common in palms along Washington Boulevard and in the trees
Anna's Hummingbird	Calypte anna	Several individuals observed hovering overhead or perching throughout the Basin
Bufflehead	Bucephala albeola	1 female feeding with the Scaups in the Basin
Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus	2 individuals feeding in the basin
House sparrow	Paser domesticus	Several individuals seen perching and flying over the basin throughout the day
Black Crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	1 individual seen at the tide gates

Mr. Rick Sun March 24, 2016 Page 5

Black Phoebe	Sayornis nigricans	Several seen perching throughout
		the basin
Black Skimmer	Ryncops niger	1 individual seen flying above the surface of the water
Belted Kingfisher	Ceryle alcyon	1 individual seen feeding and perching on the peninsula



To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Jennifer Jones, CDM Smith

Sarah C Braddy, CDM Smith

Date: March 25, 2016

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse

Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on March 25, 2016, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Sarah C Braddy, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:15 am and ending at 3:30 p.m. Weather conditions were mostly sunny with winds picking up in the afternoon. Temperatures ranged from 55°F in the morning to 73°F in the afternoon. Overnight, there was no measureable rain.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with fill the path on the Admiralty Way walking trail, landscape work along the northern slope near the pump house and the tide gates, and electrical work and installation of the lighted bollards along the Admiralty Way and Washington walking paths. All crews were overseen by the Contractor Superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:15 am. Biological monitor arrives onsite.

6:40 am. Monitor conducts initial assessment.

6:55 am. Monitor conducts bio awareness brief focusing on butterflies, hummingbirds, and potential for nests by ground nesting birds. Also, general site cleanliness and safety was discussed.

7:00 am. One pair of American Coots, 4-6 Lesser Scaups, two pair of Mallards, a Great Blue Heron,

Mr. Rick Sun March 25, 2016 Page 2

and a Snowy Egret are all feeding throughout the basin. A tern flies overhead without stopping. The crew continues to lay sprinklers, dirt for the walking paths, and planting the south slope.

7:30 am. Several House Finches fly over the basin, stopping briefly to land on the fence line on the north side.

8:00 am. A Double Crested Cormorant and the same group of ducks are feeding in the spillway. A Great Blue Heron and a Snowy Egret are perched on the peninsula near the tide gates, and the pair of Coots is around the boat dock.

8:15 am. Numerous Anna's Hummingbirds are feeding on bugs hovering above the water at the boat dock.

8:45 am. Two Double Crested Cormorants are feeding near the central mudflat. A House Sparrow is feeding amidst the pickleweed at the central mudflat. The ducks are resting throughout the basin. An American Crow flies by, numerous House Finches are perching on the fence along Washington, and a Great Blue Heron, a Snowy Egret, and a Great Egret are perched on the peninsula by the tide gates.

9:15 am. Two Great Blue Herons fly by, and one lands in the shallows at the northeastern side of the basin. The other perches in the trees along the walking path off Washington.

9:45 am. The Great Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, and Great Egret are still perched on the peninsula by the tide gates. The waterfowl continue resting. A different Great Egret lands in the spillway. The pair of coots continues to feed near the tide gates. The Great Egret that was perched on the peninsula chases away the Great Egret that landed in the spillway. A pair of Gadwalls feeds at the spillway, and a pair of Mallards is sunning on the peninsula's tip.

10:15 am. The female Bufflehead returns and is feeding at the northwest mudflat. A pair of Killdeer chases away an American Crow at the central mudflat. Upon further investigation, no nest was found on the mudflat.

11:00 am. The pair of Gadwalls has flown away. The pair of coots feeds and rests to the south of the peninsula, and there is a lot of hummingbird activity in the trees by the tide gates. Crews continue to groom the paths off Admiralty Way and close to the boat ramp. They also continue to work on scaffolding for the concrete at the boat ramp path. Crews also continue putting up the black fencing that will eventually surround the basin walking paths. Planting continues on the south slope.

11:30 am. A Great Egret is perched on the peninsula. The Killdeers are heard in the vicinity of the central mudflat. American Crows are prevalent throughout. A Mourning Dove lands in the dry dirt at the northwest mudflat. Fish are jumping out of the water near the tide gate. A Monarch Butterfly and a Cabbage White Butterfly are flitting and touching down on the peninsula. Crew breaks for lunch

12:00 pm. Work resumes. A Great Egret and a Snowy Egret are perched on the peninsula. The

Mr. Rick Sun March 25, 2016 Page 3

Mallard pair is asleep at the silt fence on the south side. Hummingbirds are active throughout the trees by the tide gates. Tree swallows are feeding on the bugs near the construction trailer bushes. A Double Crested Cormorant is fishing by the tide gates. The Mallards are now mating. A small ray is observed by the tide gates and the pair of Coots is swimming and feeding on the south side of the basin.

12:45 pm. Six Lesser Scaups, a female Bufflehead, and a Double Crested Cormorant are feeding throughout the basin.

1:30 pm. The six Scaups and female Bufflehead are still feeding together. There is also one Mallard pair and one Coot pair foraging in the basin. A Snowy Egret and a Great Egret are fighting over food.

2:00 pm. The six Scaups, female Bufflehead, Mallard pair, and Coot pair are still in the basin. House Finches and House Sparrows are perching in the bushes and on the fence lines by the construction trailer.

2:45 pm. The Scaups, female Bufflehead, Mallard pair, and Coot pair are still in the basin.

3:30 pm. The work day ends.

Additional Observations

There were no Osprey or brown pelicans observed today.

No savannah sparrows, and therefore no potential Belding's savannah sparrows, were observed.

One Monarch butterfly was observed. No butterflies or other wildlife were harmed during construction activities.

A mallard pair was observed mating; however, no nests of any bird species were observed.

Conclusions

- 1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tends to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. The crew was reminded to dispose of trash properly.
- 2. In general, wildlife is most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am, with the exception of American crows and gulls. Wildlife activity often increases slightly in the late afternoon.

- 3. No construction activities occurred in the water.
- 4. The number of fish surfacing and the sighting of the ray confirm that fish are entering the Basin through the tide gates.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on March 25, 2016.

Table 1. Bird Species Observed	Table 1. Bird Species Observed during Biological Monitoring on March 25, 2016		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments	
		Several individuals; Very common	
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	flying overhead, perching on power	
Afficialiciów	Corvus bruchyrnynchos	line poles, and exploring the basin	
		banks, gathering nesting material	
Killdeer	Charadrius vociferus	Two individuals observed on the	
		northwest mudflats, 1 individual	
		observed alone on the northwest slope	
Snowy Egret	Egretta thula	Numerous individuals on the gabion	
		peninsula	
Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	3 individuals; perched on or near the	
		gabion peninsula and flying overhead,	
		getting aggressive	
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	2-4 mated pairs foraging throughout	
		the Basin and flying overhead	
Gadwall	Anas strepera	4-6 individuals, male and female,	
		observed feeding in the basin	
Lesser Scaup	Aythya affinis	Over 12 individuals, male and female	
		foraging and resting in the Basin	
American Coot	Fulica americana	Two individuals wading throughout	
		the Basin	
Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	1-2 observed flying overhead and on	
		structures to the south and west of the	
		Basin	
House Finch	Carpodacus mexicanus	Several individuals; common in palms	
		along Washington Boulevard and in	
		the trees	
Anna's Hummingbird	Calypte anna	Several individuals observed hovering	
		overhead or perching throughout the	
		Basin	
Bufflehead	Bucephala albeola	1 female feeding with the Scaups in the	
		Basin	
Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus	2 individuals feeding in the basin	
House sparrow	Paser domesticus	Several individuals seen perching and	
		flying over the basin throughout the	
		day	
Black Crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	1 individual seen at the tide gates	
Black Skimmer	Ryncops niger	1 individual seen flying above the	
		surface of the water	



To: Rick Sun, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

From: Jennifer Jones, CDM Smith

Sarah C Braddy, CDM Smith

Date: March 26, 2016

Subject: Final Daily Biological Monitoring for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse

Enhancement Project

Introduction

This memorandum summarizes the findings of biological monitoring on March 26, 2016, for the Oxford Retention Basin Multiuse Enhancement project. Information regarding the regulatory drivers and methodology of daily biological monitoring can be found in the Biological Monitoring – Introduction and Methods for Phase 2 Construction Memo, dated June 23, 2015.

Biological monitoring was conducted by Sarah C Braddy, CDM Smith biologist, beginning at 6:15 am and ending at 3:30 p.m. Weather conditions were mostly sunny with winds picking up in the afternoon. Temperatures ranged from 57°F in the morning to 72°F in the afternoon. Overnight, there was no measureable rain.

During the daily monitoring, the biologist observed activities associated with filling the walking throughout the basin, planting along the southern slope, pouring of the concrete curbs for the walking trails around the boat ramp, electrical work and installation of the lighted bollards all throughout the walking paths and on the tide gate house. All crews were overseen by the Contractor Superintendent and the Inspector of Record.

The following sections provide the biologist's field-log notes, with observations of the day's activities and wildlife presence and behavior.

Biologist's Field Log

6:00 am. Biological monitor arrives onsite.

6:40 am. Monitor conducts initial assessment. Three Great Egrets are on the peninsula. A pair of Coots, a pair of Wigeons, and a pair of Mallards are moving and feeding throughout the basin.

6:55 am. Monitor conducts bio awareness brief focusing on avoiding disturbance of mating animals, Monarch butterflies, hummingbirds, and identification of ground nesting birds and nests. Also, general site cleanliness and safety was discussed.

7:00 am. Grading continues near the boat ramp, planting continues on the southern slope. An Anna's hummingbird is in the trees on the north side. A Killdeer is walking near the northwestern most observation deck. Two Snowy Egrets and a Great Blue Heron are perched on the peninsula. Three Lesser Scaups, a pair of Gadwalls, and numerous Anna's hummingbirds are feeding in and around the northeastern slope.

8:00 am. Workers continue laying sprinkler lines near the tide gates. One Great Blue Heron, a Snowy Egret, two Great Egrets, and a pair of coots feeds by the tide gates. Killdeers are heard on the northern slope, and a female mallard feeds alone on the northwest mudflat.

8:30 am. The monitor observes a pair of Mallards in the parking lot inside the construction gate. As the monitor approaches, they moved away but immediately came back to the same spot. Upon further investigation, a nest was not found and the ducks did not return to the area.

9:15 am. Two Great Egrets, a Snowy Egret, a Great Blue Heron, and numerous Anna's Hummingbirds are perching and feeding off of the peninsula near the tide gates. A female Sharp Shinned Hawk is perched on the tallest light pole to the north of the trailer. She takes off in an easterly direction, appears to be hunting near where the Killdeer are usually seen.

10:00 am. Two Dark Eyed Juncos are feeding in the dirt under the trees near the tide gates where the workers have turned over fresh soil. House Finches and House Sparrows are perching on the fence and electricity lines near the construction trailer.

10:30 am. A Monarch butterfly flies by and a Dark Eyed Junco is feeding under the southwest deck off of Admiralty Way. A Great Blue Heron tries to steal fish from a Great Egret.

11:15 am. A pair of Coots feeds at the boat ramp, and six Scaups are feeding and resting throughout the center of the basin. A Great Blue Heron, a Snowy Egret, and a Great Egret are perched on the peninsula, and a Killdeer is walking around the slope at the northwestern mudflat to the south of the observation deck.

11:45 am. Crew breaks for lunch.

12:15 pm. Work resumes. A male Osprey, not the one with the missing tail feather, flies into the basin and perches in the trees by the tide gates. Two American Crows chase him away. A female Sharp Shinned Hawk flies over the basin again from east to west. A pair of Mallards, a pair of Coots, and six Scaups feed throughout the basin. A Great Egret and a Great Blue Heron are perched on the peninsula. A pair of Mallards is resting on the spillway.

1:00 pm. A pair of Coots, a Pair of Mallards, two pairs of Scaups, and a female Bufflehead feed throughout the basin. A Great Blue Heron and a Great Egret are perched on the peninsula. A female Sharp Shinned Hawk flies over from east to west.

2:00 pm. A Monarch flies by the tide gates. A pair of Mallards, and a group of mixed Scaups feed

Mr. Rick Sun March 26, 2016 Page 3

near the tide gates. A pair of Coots feeds near the northwest mudflat. A Great Egret is hunting and feeding off of the peninsula by the tide gates, and numerous Anna's Hummingbirds are perching and flying around the trees there. Crew continue planting, grading, and installing sprinkler lines.

2:45 pm. A worker scares away a Killdeer near the northwest mudflat on the observations decks' southern slope. Upon further investigation a nest is discovered containing one egg so far. A 100-foot buffer was established around the nest and CDFW was notified of the nesting killdeer.

3:30 pm. Work ends for the day. Mourning Doves are in the dirt near the construction trailer.

Additional Observations

A killdeer nest was discovered on the western-most peninsula among plantings. The nest contains one egg. The female was nearby and flushed upon approach by the biological monitor. A 100-foot buffer was established around the nest and CDFW was notified of the nesting killdeer.

The Sharp Shinned Hawk may have eaten the male Killdeer. The female on her nest, after its discovery, was alone the rest of the day. When the biological monitor approached the nest, the female did not exhibit broken wing behavior, but flew quickly away into the basin.

No Black Crowned Night Herons, Double Crested Cormorants, Skimmers, or Terns were observed today.

A Monarch butterfly was observed on two occasions.

Conclusions

- 1. Biological awareness training emphasizes caution to avoid harm to birds and wildlife in and around the Basin during construction activities. In general, wildlife tends to slowly move away from an area when crews approach to conduct work activities. They return to the area once the crews move on. The crew was reminded to dispose of trash properly.
- 2. In general, wildlife is most active in the morning with a dramatic decrease in observed wildlife activity after 10:00 am, with the exception of American crows and gulls. Wildlife activity often increases slightly in the late afternoon.
- 3. No construction activities occurred in the water.
- 4. The number of fish surfacing and the sighting of the ray confirm that fish are entering the Basin through the tide gates.
- 5. Due to continued activity and construction throughout the basin, wildlife has a greater presence on Monday, after a full day of no work, and less presence moving towards the later part of the

Mr. Rick Sun March 26, 2016 Page 4

week.

Table 1 provides a list of bird species observed during biological monitoring on March 26, 2016.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
		Several individuals; Very common
		flying overhead, perching on
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	power line poles, and exploring
		the basin banks, gathering nesting
		material
Killdeer	Charadrius vociferus	Two individuals observed on the
	-	northwest mudflats, 1 individual
		observed alone on the northwest
		slope. A nest was discovered on
		the northwest mudflat containing
		one egg, attended by the female.
		The male killdeer was not present.
Snowy Egret	Egretta thula	Numerous individuals on the
, 0		gabion peninsula
Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	3 individuals; perched on or near
		the gabion peninsula and flying
		overhead, getting aggressive
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	2 mated pairs foraging throughout
		the Basin and flying overhead
Gadwall	Anas strepera	1 mated pair, observed feeding in
	•	the basin
Lesser Scaup	Aythya affinis	6 individuals, male and female
•		foraging and resting in the Basin
American Coot	Fulica americana	One pair wading throughout the
		Basin
Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	2 individuals observed in the dirt
S		near the construction trailer
House Finch	Carpodacus mexicanus	Several individuals; common on
		the power lines and fence near the
		construction trailer
Anna's Hummingbird	Calypte anna	Several individuals observed
3.		hovering overhead or perching
		throughout the Basin
Bufflehead	Bucephala albeola	1 female feeding with the Scaups
2	r	in the Basin
House sparrow	Paser domesticus	Several individuals seen perching
Trouse sparrow	1 455. 455501645	and flying over the basin
		throughout the day
Sharp Shinned Hawk	Accipiter striatus	1 female seen hunting through the
Sharp Shinned Hawk	Ticolphici surfacus	basin